

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to preempt regular programs and force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and reminiscent of Orwellian media mind control.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. First of all, the airing of the Kerry smear, Stolen Honor, without a counterbalanced airing of a pro Kerry program such as Going Upriver is a supreme example of what happens when single ownership of many stations can be used to influence what that ownership wants the public to hear, and the presentation doesn't even have to be factual. How is that fair and balanced programming?

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. If this continues, what separates America from any other totalitarian regime?